

WATTS BILL IN THE HOUSE

Prolonged Discussion for and
Against the Liquor Law.

THE LONDON SALOON BILL

Comes Up in the Senate and There is
a Prolonged Fight Over Its Provisions—Several Bills Introduced
in the House and Senate.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
RALPH, N. C., Feb. 19.—The House this afternoon passed the bill providing for a Code Commission of three members, who are to receive \$1,000 per year, \$1,500 being also appropriated for expenses, their work to be the codification of the laws of the State. The bill was ordered sent to the Senate without engrossment.

The House devoted two hours to the Watts bill. Mr. Smith closed his argument for his amendment, continued from last night. Mr. Lucas advocated the Watts bill. Mr. Graham spoke for the Smith amendment, pleading that country people be allowed to vote on the question, just as town people are. Mr. Stubbs supported the Smith amendment, saying, though, he would support the Watts bill in the absence of stronger bills.

Mr. Watts called the previous question on his bill, withdrew the call at the request of Mr. Dougherty to the matter could go over until the night session, in the hope that advocates of temperance legislation might get nearer together on the point at issue in the Smith amendment, allowing county people to vote on the question of manufacture, saloons and dispensary, just as provided for towns.

The only notable bills introduced were: By Mr. Harrison: For better intelligence in agricultural pursuits.

By Mr. McKee: Providing for working prisoners in jail before trial for crime.

IN THE SENATE.
The London saloon bill came up in the Senate. Mr. Warren spoke at length in support of his substitute. Mr. London followed, advocating his bill and against the Warren substitute. Mr. Vann opposed the London bill unless it was provided that it be submitted to a vote of the yeas and nays. Mr. Crisp, Republican, opposed the London bill, but denounced the statement by Mr. London that the Republican caucus had agreed to oppose a temperance legislation. He said every Republican was left to vote as he pleased. He reminded Mr. London that but for the vote of Marshall (Republican) for his bill in committee it would have received an unfavorable report.

Among bills introduced in the Senate were:
By Mr. Hoey: To provide for nominating candidates for office by compelling political parties to follow plan of organization and prevent party executive committees from putting up and taking down candidates.

By Mr. Bellamy: To provide all teachers in public schools with revolving desk chairs.

By Mr. Glenn: To allow railroads to transport insane, deaf, dumb and blind patients free.

By Mr. Henderson: To facilitate the sale of swamp lands in Jones and Onslow counties by providing for the sale of the same in small lots.

By Mr. Justice: To punish the use of whiskey to influence votes in elections.

NIGHT SESSION.
Both the Senate and House wrestled with the whiskey problem to-night, the London bill being up in the Senate and the Watts bill in the House. The House passed the Watts bill on the second reading by a vote of 71 to 38 without amending, but allowed country people to vote on the same conditions as provided for towns and cities. Objection was made to the third reading of the bill.

Mr. Watts moved to suspend the rules and pass it whether or no. Mr. McKee demanded aye and no vote, so Mr. Watts withdrew his motion, allowing the bill to go over until to-morrow. Notice was given that a number of amendments will be offered on the third reading of the bill.

When the House met to-morrow, it was made that no agreement had been reached as to differences between temperance forces and Mr. Watts declared that managers of the bill intended that it must stand or fall in its present form. There was two hours' argument before the vote on second reading was reached.

In the Senate, the London bill and the substitute offered by the minority of the committee were debated. Senators Hoey, Brown and Beasley speaking at length for the London bill and Mr. Morris for the substitute. The debate will be continued to-morrow.

Early in the evening the Senate passed the committee substitute child labor bill on second reading, but on objection by Mr. Brown it was ordered to lie on the table for third reading. It only provides that after 1904 no child under twelve years shall be allowed in factories, and that sixty-eight hours constitute a week's work.

The Senate also passed the bill to establish a historical commission to be appointed by the Governor and be authorized to spend \$500 annually in gathering and preserving data of value.

Insurance Commissioner J. R. Young returned this afternoon from Keyville, Va., having brought back as far as Oxford J. A. Massey, arrested yesterday at Keyville for insurance irregularities in various counties in this State. At Oxford this morning a preliminary hearing was given Massey, resulting in commitment in default of \$1,000 to stand trial for numerous offenses. He acknowledged to Commissioner Young that he had taken insurance in the manner charged, but insists that he did not intend any wrong.

NEW FIRE ENGINE
Canvass Started for the Municipal Election in May.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
DURHAM, N. C., February 19.—The new steamer for the Fire Department, after several days' delay in transit, arrived yesterday, and Messrs. LaFrance and Moore, agents of the manufacturers, were here to receive it, put it up, give it a test, and turn it over to the Fire Department. The machine cost about fifty-five hundred dollars, and its appearance is good.

A sad story comes from the Watts Hospital. A Mrs. West, formerly of Wake county, but recently living near the Commonwealth Cotton Mill here, was carried to the hospital some ten days ago, suffering with pneumonia and died there the night of the 17th. She had a daughter and son-in-law living here, who, when it became evident she would die, at once abandoned themselves from town, leaving no address and also leaving the county to bury the body.

Already canvass has begun for the municipal election to be held in May, and there are several candidates for each office. The aldermen who asked for an amendment to the city charter and incorporated in it "that each ward should elect its own alderman," finding themselves so small a minority have withdrawn their names.

The extremely cold weather of the

present and past few days has considerably curtailed tobacco receipts. With the thermometer at fifteen degrees, the farmers do not care to haul it and get it here a frozen block.

Two big enterprises are planned for Durham. A Home Savings Bank, with a fifty thousand dollar capital, and a Loan and Trust Company, with one hundred thousand dollar capital, and to be started here as soon as the needed for charter is obtained. The principal incorporators are George W. Watts, B. N. Duke, John Speight, Hill and S. A. Carr. They have purchased property and will build a modern five story structure.

THE PROPOSED COUNTY

Committee of the House Will Report Bill Unfavorably.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
RALPH, N. C., Feb. 19.—The House Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns has decided to report unfavorably to the bill introduced some days ago to establish a new county, formed of portions of Moore, Chatham and Harnett counties, to be known as Lee county. Advocates of the bill declare they will keep up the fight before every Legislature until they get it. The unfavorable report of the committee means that the bill will be voted down in the House.

President Venable, of the State University, and Dr. Winston, of the A. and M. College, were before the joint Committee on Education this evening to urge that the full amount of appropriations asked for by these two institutions be granted. The committee has as yet taken no action.

A bill by Mr. Pharr, of Mecklenburg, to empower the Corporation Commission to regulate damage charges will be reported favorably by the Committee on Railroads, and Railroad Commission.

News has been received here of the death of Rev. J. W. Wallace, one of the brightest of the younger members of the North Carolina Methodist Conference. He died at Chapel Level yesterday. The funeral was preached by Dr. T. N. Ivy, of this city, to-day. The deceased leaves a wife and three small children.

The funeral of Mrs. T. E. Skinner, wife of Dr. Thomas B. Skinner, for many years pastor of the First Baptist Church of this city, will be conducted Friday afternoon, she having died early this morning.

Miss Lillian was the daughter of Jno. E. Ludlow of New York, and was born January 1, 1883. She had been critically ill for several weeks.

An effort will be made to induce the Governor to select Raleigh as the location for the monument to the United States government to the memory of General Nash and General Davidson. It will be urged that they should be either in the capital or in Nash Square, the park in front of the Union Depot, where the monument by the school children and citizens to Sir Walter Raleigh will be a central figure. There will also be a strong effort to have the monuments erected on Guilford battlefield.

The special committee to investigate charges of cruelty to convicts by officers and guards of the State prison is making progress daily. The testimony of two witnesses taken yesterday. It is expected that some of the convicts will be questioned before the committee on next Monday.

IN GREENSBORO

North Boyd Not in Favor of Holding Court at Wilkesboro.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
GREENSBORO, N. C., Feb. 19.—An act was recently passed by Congress, establishing a United States Court at Wilkesboro, in the Western North Carolina District, about one hundred miles west of here. District Judge Boyd has vigorously opposed it, on the ground that the court at Greensboro was all sufficient for this territory, and the establishment of additional courts at Wilkesboro would greatly add to the expense, without any compensating advantages to the government or the public. The bill is now awaiting the signature of the President.

Judge Boyd received a telegram from the Attorney General yesterday, dated Washington for a consultation on the matter, and left to-day on the noon train.

At 10 o'clock last night a jury in the Superior Court here returned a verdict of one thousand dollars damages in favor of Miss Mattie Hegwood against A. A. Johnson, a shoe manufacturer here, for false arrest and slander.

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